

St. John Berchmans Catholic Church

1147 Cupples Road, San Antonio, TX 78226 210-434-3247 FAX 210-432-0431
www.stjohnberchmans.com



Welcoming and liturgical community celebrating the spiritual needs of God's people in the spirit of St. John Berchmans.
"My penance is to live the common life. I will pay greatest attention to the least inspiration of God." - St. John Berchmans

Parish Office Staff:

Fr. Fidèle O. Dikete, Pastor • Deacon Jesus Rodriguez

Stella Rico, Secretary
Olivia Lopez, Bookkeeper/Office Manager
Andrew Solis, Bus Maintenance
Christine McWilliams, WebMaster/ FB

Connie Peché, Family Records
Joan Orosco, Sacristan/Bereavement
Kathy Flores, Sacramental Records
Cynthia Sandoval, Director of Religious Education

Raquel Castillo, Office Volunteer
Olivia Santoyo, Bulletin Editor
Grace Salinas, Office Volunteer

Parish Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 9am-5pm
Saturday 10am-2pm

Mass Times:

Saturday Vigil 5pm-English
Sunday 9am-Bilingual
Sunday 11am-English

Weekday Services:

Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 12 Noon

School Mass:

Wednesdays 8:15am (School Calendar)

Holy Days of Obligation:

Bilingual Mass at 7pm

Reconciliation:

Saturday 4:00pm or by appointment

Adoration:

Every Thursday 9am-5pm

Baptisms/Quinceñeras/Sweet 16:

Please contact office for more information

Baptism Classes:

Please contact office for more information

Weddings:

Father Fidèle Dikete, Pastor
Please make an appointment
six months in advance.

CCD:

Sunday 9:30am – 12 Noon

Good Samaritans of SJB:

Monday and Friday; 3pm - 5pm

SJB School: Nora Garcia, Principal - 210-433-0411

Parish Ministries

ACTS CORE FACILITATOR:

Emilio Semersky

esemersky@gmail.com

ALTAR SERVERS:

Eddie Campa

ecampa@swri.org

BOY & GIRL SCOUTS:

Aussie Mata

rotorwing2@gmail.com

CHOIRS:

Saturday 5pm Choir

John A. Campa

jhowardcampa@aol.com

Sunday 9am Choir

Roy Sanchez

rsanchez34@satx.rr.com

Sunday 11am Choir

Javier Saucedo

javierrufus@gmail.com

CYO:

Esmeralda "Ezmi" Tamez

ezmiet09@gmail.com

CAFETERIA RENTAL:

Cecilia Sandoval

cecilsand@yahoo.com

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Linda Campbell

linda40849@satx.rr.com

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Elida Gonzales

redg90@sbcglobal.net

GOOD SAMARITANS OF SJB:

John Diaz

johndiaz7538@sbcglobal.net

Angie Diaz

GUADALUPANAS:

Sylvia Quintana

squintana7678@gmail.com

FORMATION HOUSE RENTAL :

Cecilia Sandoval

cecilsand@yahoo.com

HOSPITALITY:

Kathy Flores

kflores0411@att.net

JOY MINISTRY:

Jessica Ramos

jessicamosfischer@gmail.com

Chayo Gomez

tootsweez@hotmail.com

LECTORS:

Stella Rico

stellav28@att.net

LITURGY COMMITTEE:

Joan Orosco

dorosco08@yahoo.com

PASTORAL COUNCIL:

Kimberly Mata

mata_kimberly@yahoo.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

Cyndi Sandoval

ventimochafrap@yahoo.com

ROSARY MAKERS:

Victoria Sanchez

SHARE THE WORD:

Rosalinda Garza

Garza_rosalinda@att.net

VIGIL TEAM:

Oralia Cantu

dduran57@outlook.com

Dora Duran

JANUARY 7, 2024 - THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

January 7, 2024

www.stjohnberchmans.com

LIFE IN THE DARK

In Isaiah, we rejoice because a light has come to challenge the darkness that covers the earth. This light draws all to itself, kings and shepherds, daughters and sons. The psalm describes the wonder of life lived within the light: justice and peace flower, the poor are rescued, the afflicted are helped, and the lives of the lowly are saved. In Ephesians we are reminded that we are co-heirs of the promise, of the light, that is Jesus our Savior. But Matthew tells the rest of the story. There is opposition to the light and it is deadly. The magi are led by the light from a star, but when they encounter Herod, the light is lost to them. Herod lies to them about his intentions regarding this new king. The light returns only when the magi leave Herod. They reach the new king, a baby, and are warned to return along a way that avoids Herod, his lies and his evil intentions. They and the child are saved, but many will suffer because of the evil that lies within Herod.

LIFE IN THE LIGHT

Today we are reminded that there is darkness in the world. There is evil. Herod is concerned with protecting his position and his power. Jesus is concerned about protecting the poor and the powerless. Evil disguises itself as good. Jesus offers himself with no disguise or pretense. Evil always puts its self-interest first. Jesus always puts the poor, the afflicted, and the lowly first. The holidays are over and we return to Ordinary Time. We return to our ordinary lives. This is the most important time because it is during these ordinary days that we strengthen our understanding of the good, of Jesus, and our resolve to do good in a world where evil often seems too powerful. The joy and the promise of Christmas are made real in these ordinary days. This is the Epiphany.

LA VIDA EN LA OSCURIDAD

En Isaías, nos alegramos porque una luz ha venido a alterar la oscuridad que cubre la Tierra. Esta luz atrae hacia ella reyes y pastores, hijas e hijos. El salmo describe lo maravilloso de la vida que se vive dentro de la luz: la justicia y la paz florecen, los pobres son rescatados, los afligidos ayudados y la vida de los humildes salvadas. En Efesios se nos recuerdan que somos coherederos de la promesa, de la luz, que es Jesús nuestro Salvador. Pero Mateo cuenta el resto de la historia. Hay oposición a la luz y es mortal. Los magos son guiados por la luz de una estrella, pero cuando ellos encuentran a Herodes, la luz se pierde con ellos. Herodes les miente acerca de sus intenciones en cuanto a este nuevo rey. La luz regresa solo cuando los magos dejan a Herodes. Ellos llegan al nuevo rey, un bebé, y se le advierte que regresen por otro camino para evitar volver a ver a Herodes, sus mentiras y sus malas intenciones. Ellos y el niño están a salvo, pero muchos sufrirán a causa de la maldad que hay dentro de Herodes.

LA VIDA EN LA LUZ

Hoy se nos recuerda que hay oscuridad en el mundo. Hay mal. Herodes está preocupado con proteger su posición y su poder. Jesús está preocupado por proteger a los pobres e indefensos. El mal se disfraza como algo bueno. Jesús se ofrece así mismo sin disfraz o pretensión. El mal siempre pone su propio interés en primer lugar. Jesús siempre pone a los pobres, afligidos y los humildes en primer lugar. Los días festivos ya terminaron y ahora regresamos al Tiempo Ordinario. Regresamos a nuestras vidas ordinarias. Este es el tiempo más importante porque es durante estos días ordinarios que fortaleces nuestro conocimiento de lo que es bueno, de Jesús, y de nuestra voluntad de hacer bien en un mundo donde el mal siempre parece ser tan poderoso. La alegría y promesa de la Navidad se hacen realidad en estos días ordinarios. Esta es la Epifanía.



Please Pray for the Sick

Prayer List Updates



Sarah Contreras
Marty Carrera Tobias
Frances Lozano
Irma Urias
Mary S. Martinez
Galilea Romero
Iris Luna Sullivan
Emma O. Velasquez
Leticia Martinez
Kenny De La Rosa
Raymond Sarabia
Frank Rodriguez
Julissa Rodriguez
Miliana Bullock
Lydia Soriano
Albert Casillas
Robert Sanchez
Vanessa Quintero
Virginia R. Lucio

Guadalupe Rodriguez
Lori Bañuelos
Joe Villanueva
Edith Flores
Isaiah Vasquez
Esther Nicholson
Valerie Vigil
Maldonado Family
Margie Zuniga
Rosemary Flores
Anthony Ramirez
Carmen Garza
Gloria Rubio
Lisa Brown
Mary Herrera
Rebecca Zuniga
Rosa Elva Villaseñor
Lupe Gomez
Angie Canales

Joseph Kavanaugh
Rosie Gallegos
Maritza Garcia
Saucedo Family
Sandy Flores
Liam Adrian Martinez
Antonia Degollado
Michael P. Ramirez
Alfred Marin
Maria Martinez
Lucy Treviño & Family
Angie Ramirez
Mickey S. Carrasco
Robert Prieto
Elizabeth Rose Valdez
Blanca V. Herrera
Muñoz Family
Adela Moreno
Mary Rose Cerda

We thank God for the healing of so many sick parishioners. Please be courteous and call the Parish Office if your loved one is no longer suffering or sick. Thank you.



Tithes

STEWARDSHIP FOR THE WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023

5 PM Mass	-\$1,086.00	
9 AM Mass	-\$ 573.00	
11 AM Mass	-\$1,138.00	
Solemnity of Mary/		
New Year's Day Mass	-\$1,101.00	
Altar Linens	-\$ 285.00	2nd Collection
Drop Off	-\$ 860.00	
On Line	-\$ 111.00	
Gift of Giving	-\$ 185.50	
TOTAL	\$5,228.50	

SECOND COLLECTION JANUARY 6 - 7, 2024 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 6

5:00 p.m. † Roger Garcia, Sr. - Family
 † Maria Elena Martinez - Family
 † Beatrice Barron - Children
 † Elida C. Garcia - Family
For Health Mary Rose Cerda - Family

Sunday, January 7

9:00 a.m. † Daniel "Danny" Romero - Family
 † Daniel C. & Maria Arzola - Family
 † Maria Elena Martinez - Family
 † Ernesto Rodriguez - Rodriguez Family
 † Sandra L. Garza - Lozano Family
 11:00 a.m. † Adela Solis - Family
 † Ernie Lozano - Family
 † Joe Esparza - Family
 † Ricardo Z. Esparza - Family

Gift of Strength Andrea Hay - Aragus Family

Monday, January 8 - THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Tuesday, January 9

12:00 p.m. † Cecilia Espinoza - SJB Family

Wednesday, January 10


8:15 a.m. † Fred Estrello - Cindi Sanchez

Thursday, January 11

12:00 p.m. † Olga Santoyo - Family

Friday, January 12

12:00 p.m. † Clara Perez - Family
 † M/M Marcelino Esquivel - Juana Lee



Epiphany House Blessing

C+M+B+2024

The numbers represent the New Year
 2 meanings for C, M, B

(Caspar) (Melchior) & (Balthasar)
 traditional names for the magi

"CHRISTUS MANSIONEM BENEDICAT"
 which in Latin means
 "MAY CHRIST BLESS THIS HOUSE"

The "+" signs represent the cross
 and 2024 is the year of the blessing.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE LIT BY THE TABERNACLE BURNS FOR: Mary Rose Cerda

Let us remember the lamp is a mark of honor. It is to remind the faithful of the presence of Christ, and is a profession of their love and affection.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners and Friends:

Happy New Year 2024 to each and everyone of you!

I invite you to join me in thanking God for the completion of year 2023 and for the New Year 2024 that we are about to embark on.

I am pledging two goals:

- Run 10K (6.2 miles) on Mother's Day weekend, Saturday, May 11th, 2024 at 8:00 in the morning at Woodlawn Lake Park to raise money for our beloved school.
- Run half a marathon (13.1 miles) at the Rock'n'Roll marathon on Sunday, December 8th, 2024.

Hope you join me in making this journey a huge success for the benefit of our community and in supporting me.

Our friendly competition of weight loss is open as of January 1st, 2024 until December 25th. Please stop by the office to register.

You are invited to join us on Saturday, February 10th, 2024 from 6:30 in the evening until 11:00 in the evening on Valentine's Day to celebrate the gift of love and friendship. Your donation of \$10 will cover dinner, drink and dance. Make a special effort to join your fellow parishioners and celebrate the gift of love.

I would like to take this opportunity and express my sincere gratitude to each and everyone of you who took time, energy and resources to offer me a token of Christmas appreciation, a gift, a card, a phone call, and prayer during this holiday.

Thank you and may God bless you always!

Fr. Fidèle Okitembo Dikete, Pastor
 fr.fidele@stjohnnberchmans.com



MONTHLY DEDICATIONS OF THE CHURCH

CatholicLink

JAN NAME OF JESUS	FEB HOLY FAMILY	MAR SAINT JOSEPH	APR HOLY EUCHARIST & HOLY SPIRIT
MAY VIRGIN MARY	JUN SACRED HEART	JUL BLOOD OF OUR LORD	AUG BLESSED SACRAMENT
SEP SEVEN SORROWS	OCT HOLY ROSARY	NOV POOR SOULS IN PURGATORY	DEC ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

SOURCE: AQUINASANDMORE.COM



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

The Solemnity of the Epiphany reminds us of the three mysteries that are encompassed in this solemnity: the adoration of the Christ Child by the Magi, the Baptism of Christ and the wedding feast at Cana.

Epiphany focuses on the revelation/manifestation that Jesus' light has dawned for all people. What the Church celebrates today is the manifestation of our Lord to the whole world; after being made known to the shepherds of Bethlehem. He is revealed to the Magi who have come from the East to adore him. The gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh portend the manner in which Jesus' light is spread out to the whole world. Myrrh, a perfume used for burial, foreshadows his death. Gold is a gift for royalty and frankincense for holiness.

Today the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Epiphany. Today's feast bring to a fulfillment all of the purposes of Advent Christmas season.

HOW TO BE A VITA VOLUNTEER:

The VITA program provides free tax preparation for anyone who earns up to \$60,000. Be a volunteer with this impactful program that assists with providing financial security for our neighbors. Volunteers are trained with 20 hours of IRS-certified training for free basic tax preparation. Register as a volunteer to become a certified tax preparation volunteer. For more information, contact the Guadalupe Community VITA office at (210) 222-2975.



RESPECT FOR LIFE MASS

Sunday, January 21 at 5:00 PM
Bishop Michael Boulette, *Celebrant and Homilist*
San Fernando Cathedral
(115 Main Plaza, 78205)

Gather in prayer for the protection of human life. We praise God for the opportunity that state and federal legislators have to protect unborn children. We pray for sustained protection of the unborn, for support for mothers and families in need, and for decision makers to continue to advocate for the most vulnerable among us. **Join us 4:00 PM for a Rosary prior to Mass. Mass begins at 5:00PM. Questions? Contact Esperanza.Sanchez@archsa.org or call 210-734-1966.**



BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

All requests must be sent by email to osantoyo1104@gmail.com and will be finalized for approval by Father Fidèle. **Bulletins are printed on Thursdays.**



NEW TO OUR PARISH AND WANT TO REGISTER AS A NEW PARISHIONER?

We encourage all newcomers to register and get to know your parish community. Please contact our Parish Office at 210-434-3247 to fill out a registration form.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Acts 10:34-38; Ps 29:1-4, Mk 1:7-11
Tue: 1Sam 1:9-20; 1 Sam 2:1,4-8; Mk 1:21-28
Wed: 1Sam 3:1-10,19-20; Ps 40:5-10; Mk 1:29-39
Thu: 1Sam 4:1-11; Ps 44:10-14; Mk 1:40-45
Fri: 1Sam 8:4-7, 10-22a; Ps 89:16-18; Mk 2:1-12
Sat: 1Sam 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a; Ps 21:2-7; Mk 2:13-17
Sun: 1Sam 3:3b-10, 19;Ps 40:2,4,7-10; 1Cor1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34



EVERY THURSDAY
9:00 A.M. - 5:00

SJB CHURCH DIRECTORY

Reminder to schedule your photo appointments for our parish directory. Everyone photographed will receive a complimentary 8X10 portrait and directory. Questions? Contact the Parish Office.



Sunday, January 7 - CCD CLASSES RESUME

9:00 a.m. MASS - Church
11:00 a.m. MASS - Church

Monday, January 8

Tuesday, January 9

12:00 p.m. MASS - Chapel

Wednesday, January 10

8:15 a.m. MASS - Church
2:00 p.m. 15 Minute Coffee with Fr. Fidèle

Thursday, January 11

9:00a.m. - 5:00p.m Eucharistic Adoration - Chapel
12:00 p.m. MASS - Chapel

Friday, January 12

12:00 p.m. MASS - Church

Saturday, January 13

8:00 a.m. Church Cleaning - Guadalupanas
5:00 p.m. MASS - Church